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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2016-62

Abamectin

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of the new use on greenhouse tomatoes to the product label of AVID 1.9% EC Miticide/Insecticide, containing technical grade abamectin, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of AVID 1.9% EC Miticide/Insecticide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 24485.

The evaluation of this abamectin application indicated that the end-use product has value and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new use are acceptable.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRL for abamectin is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRL can be found in Appendix I.

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRL is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Canada's Notification Authority and Enquiry Point.

The proposed MRL, to replace an MRL already established for abamectin, is as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Abamectin

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)[1]	Food Commodity
Abamectin	avermectin B_1 (a mixture of avermectins ≥ 80% avermectin B_{1a} (5-*O*-demethyl avermectin A_{1a}) and ≤ 20% avermectin B_{1b} (5-*O*-demethyl-25-de(1-methylpropyl)-25-(1-methylethyl) avermectin A_{1a}) and its delta-8,9-isomer)	0.07[2]	Tomatoes

[1] ppm = parts per million

[2] The MRL of 0.07 ppm is proposed to replace the currently established MRL of 0.02 ppm in/on tomatoes.

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for established MRLs, regulated under the *Pest Control Products Act*, both for pesticides or for food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

Abamectin is an active ingredient that is concurrently being proposed for use in Canada and the United States on tomatoes. The MRL proposed for abamectin in Canada is the same as the corresponding tolerance to be promulgated in the United States.

Once established, the American tolerance for abamectin will be listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide.

The established Codex MRLs[1] listed for abamectin in or on any commodity are on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRL, American Tolerance and Codex MRL (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRL (ppm)	American Tolerance (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Tomatoes	0.07	0.07 (Fruiting Vegetables, Crop Group 8-10)	0.02

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRL for abamectin up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRL. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRL will be legally in effect as of the date that it is entered into the MRL Database.

[1] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Appendix I

Summary of Greenhouse Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

Residue data for abamectin in greenhouse tomatoes were submitted to support the domestic use of AVID 1.9% EC Miticide/Insecticide on greenhouse tomatoes.

Maximum Residue Limit

The recommendation for maximum residue limit (MRL) for abamectin was based upon the submitted greenhouse trial data, and the guidance provided in the OECD MRL Calculator. Table A1 summarizes the residue data used to calculate the proposed MRL for tomatoes.

Table A1 Summary of Greenhouse Trial Data Used to Support the MRL

Commodity	Application Method/ Total Application Rate (g a.i./ha)[1]	Preharvest Interval (days)	Lowest Average Field Trial Residues (ppm)	Highest Average Field Trial Residues (ppm)
Greenhouse Tomato	Foliar application/ 66-70	1	0.006	0.041

[1] g a.i./ha = grams of active ingredient per hectare

Following the review of all available data, the MRL as proposed in Table 1 is recommended to cover residues of abamectin. Residues of abamectin in this crop commodity at the proposed MRL will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.